

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed October 3, 2003. Claims 1-30 are pending and stand rejected. Applicants have amended Claims 5 and 23 and have written new claim 31. Favorable action is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5-7, 12, 13, 23, 24, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over *Wu et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,094). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Claim 5, as amended, recites "an electrically conductive plate having a balun hole and a slot extending transversely therethrough" and "wherein said slot has edges on opposite sides thereof that each follow a predetermined curve other than a first order exponential curve and that may be represented by a polynomial having an order greater than one." Support for this amendment may be found at page 12 of the specification. *Wu* does not show this limitation. The Office Action asserts that slot line 318 of *Wu* constitutes a slot, but slot line 318 does not have edges on opposite sides thereof that each follow a predetermined curve that may be represented by a polynomial having an order greater than one. For at least this reason, Claim 5 is allowable. For analogous reasons, Claim 23 is also allowable. Favorable action is requested.

As depending from allowable independent claims, dependent Claims 6-16, 23, 24, 28, and 30 are also allowable. Favorable Action is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 8-11 and 14-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and that Claims 1-4, 17-22, 25-27 are allowable. Applicants have rewritten Claim 8 in independent form as new Claim 31. Favorable action is requested.

CONCLUSION

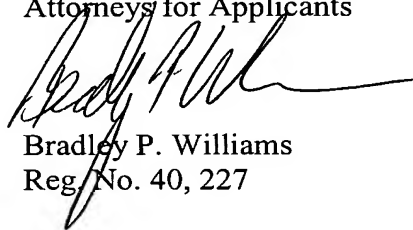
Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present Application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 214-953-6447.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge these fees and any extra fee or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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